estimate was revised to Rs. 2590 lakhs and that the final cost is estimated to be Rs. 3280 lakhs besides there has been a delay of seven years in the completion of the work; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the CBI is inquiring into the case and if so, what are the details thereof and by when the CBI inquiry is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The civil work of STC's office building was awarded to a private company after its tender was determined to be the lowest amongst nine pre-qualified contractors including public sector undertakings. STC contacted CPWD to ascertain whether it would underake the building project on contract basis. CPWD, however, stated that it could not enter into a contract as the work could be undertaken as deposit work in accordance with the Government rules and with the specification that the project would be as per the standards laid down for similar Government buildings. STC, therefore, decided not to award the work to CPWD on this basis.

(b) The final cost estimate is expected to be in the region of Rs. 3280 lakhs as a part of civil works case is still under arbitration. Various reasons for cost escalation/time overrun are as under:

(i) Preliminary estimate of Rs. 476.10 lakhs was not correct because of under-estimation in respect of plinth area, area by central air conditioning, extra cost due to structural pattern, aluminium glazing, lifts electrical provisions, fire fighting and fire alarm systems etc.

(ii) Delay of nearly 15 months in handing over the site to civil contractor.

(iii) Non-completion of the work whether cotton textile will be given due months due to inadequate supply of cement and steel etc.

(iv) Claim of civil contractor for the revision of rates.

(v) Incorporation of additional fire protection measures.

(c) CBI is inquiring into the case and their report is awaited minary stage.

Review of the present Textile Policy

374. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to review the textiles policy and whether cotton texiles will be given due emphasis in the new policy as announced by him;

(b) what is the number of textile mills lying closed in the country, State-wise, at present and what efforts are being made to revive them;

(c) whether Government propose to take over closed textile units and reopen them with the help of financial institutions;

(d) if so, what other measures Government propose to take to solve the problem of closed mills; and

(e) whether Government are aware of the 'White Paper' on textile crisis released by Gujarat Government and whether any Central assistance has been sought; if so, with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The Government had appointed a committee to review the progress of the implementation of the Textile Policy of June 1985 and to assess its impact on the various sector of the textile industry.

(b) to (d) A statement is attached. (*See* below) Reopening of a closed mill depends on its viability being established before the Nodal Agency/BIFR. These agencies have been advised to expedite examination of such mills and preparation and implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of the mills found viable. According to the existing Textile Policy where a unit has no expectation

of becoming viable within a reasonable time, there may be alternative but to allow its closure while protecting the interest of affected workers.

(a) Yes, Sir. Since most of the measures listed in the White paper for prevention of further closures, revival of the closed units, and rehabilitation of affected workers were to be taken by the State Government themselves, they were advised to convene a meeting of all concerned to consider further action in this regard.

Statement

State	Cotton/Manmade Fibre Textile Mills lying closed as on 30-11-1989.
Andhra Pradesh	5
Bihar	1
Gujarat	35
Haryana	2
Karnataka	11
Kerala	2
Madhya Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	17
Rajasthan	8
Tamil Nadu	29
West Bengal	7
Delhi	1
Uttar Pradesh	9
TOTAL	129

Strength of Judges in High Courts

375. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present strength of the Judges against the sanctioned strength in each High Court in the country and what steps are being taken to fill these vacancies;

(b) whether panels of names have been recommended by the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the States to the Law Ministry and whether they are being considered; and

(c) whether the policy of transfer of judges is being examined and whether Government would consult all concerned before taking a decision in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). A Statement showing the sanctioned and actual strength and vacancies in various High Courts as on 15-12-1989 is attached. (*See* Appendix CLII, Annexure No. 12) Certain recommendations for filling in some vacancies were received from the Chief Ministers in consultation with the Chief Justices and Governors: these have been processed. The consultative process for filling other vacanacies has been expedited

(c) Government will consider proposals for transfer of Judges only on the recommendation of the Chief Justice of India.

Shifting of Regional Office of the STC from Ahmedabad

376. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Regional Office of State Trading Corporation has been shifted from Ahmedabad; if so, what are the reasons therefor and since when this office has discontinued its functioning at Ahmedabad;

(b) whether Government have received representations from Chambers of Commerce, trade bodies and people' representatives against the decision of the STC; and

(c) what is the contribution of Gujarat State in the total exports from the country and whether Government will consider the reopening of the Regional Office in the interest of export potential in Gujarat?